



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
23 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0023

SUSAN A. GENDRON
COMMISSIONER

EXHIBIT IV.A.

To: Members of the State Board of Education

From: Susan A. Gendron, Commissioner*

Date: January 9, 2008

Subject: Major Capital School Construction Program; *Design and Funding Approval Consideration*; Ellsworth School Department, preK-8 renovation/addition school construction project.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The renovation/addition will be constructed in Ellsworth, Maine, and house 905 students, preK through eighth grade. The project received Concept Approval on June 26, 2007. The subsequent referendum passed with 81% voting in favor of the project.

The Design and Funding Approval is being requested pursuant to MRSA Title 20-A, Section 15905(1).

The basic design of the project and budget have not changed since Concept Approval, and it has met the needed criteria to move forward, which will allow it to be bonded and constructed on schedule.

Ellsworth School Department is requesting Design and Funding Approval for a new elementary school qualifying under State statute and State Board of Education Rule, Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, and

- The Ellsworth School Department proposed school construction project is eligible for school construction under MRSA Title 20-A, Chapter 609;
- The proposed project and authorized method of financing are in the best interest of the State of Maine and Ellsworth School Department;
- The Ellsworth School Department estimated capital outlay expenditures are reasonable; and
- The Ellsworth School Department proposed project is in compliance with MRSA Title 20-A, Chapter 301, as it relates to special education facilities.

Project Information

Project: Ellsworth Elementary/Middle School
Superintendent: S. Wayne Enman, Interim Superintendent
Principal: Amy Peterson-Roper and James Newett
Architect: Rob Tillotson, AIA, Oak Point Associates

School Closures

Dr. Charles C. Knowlton School
General Bryant E. Moore School

Project Budget Information

Concept Approval Date and Total Project Cost: May 9, 2007, \$36,443,847
Local Only (no State participation): \$1,367,724
Approved for State/Local Debt Service Subsidy: \$34,956,123
Anticipated Maine High Performance Schools Energy Grant: \$120,000

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

At its meeting on January 7, 2008, the Construction Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval to Ellsworth School Department for a preK-8 renovation/addition school construction project located in Ellsworth, Maine.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

The Commissioner recommends that the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval to Ellsworth School Department for a new elementary school in Ellsworth, Maine, as a Major Capital School Construction Project and approve the design and funding budget as presented.**

*Prepared by the School Facilities Services Team

**This approval constitutes Design & Funding Approval. Final Funding Approval may be subject to adjustment under Section 10, Subsection 1, of the State Board of Education Rules for School Construction Projects, which states:

“Final Funding Approval by the Commissioner establishes the Project Budget and takes place after construction bids have been received. At that time, the Commissioner may reduce the budget to finance the project, thus providing additional funds for other projects.”